



Food Stamp Participation Grant Project ACCESS Status Update 2/11/05 to 3/10/05

ACCESS Self-Assessment Tool Updates



Evaluation data from ACCESS show the following results from 8/16 to 2/27:

- Screening questionnaires started to date: **15,532**
- Completed questionnaires to date: **11,707** (75% of those who started)
- Households found potentially eligible for at least one program: **10,454** (89% of those who completed)
- Percentage of people applying for FoodShare and/or Medicaid who say they have used ACCESS prior to applying: 5.4% or approximately 829 people during February.
- *Since October 2004, the total number of applicants who say they have used ACCESS is approximately 4,300, or about 215 per week.*

Mini-releases for ACCESS R2.0.0:



- **R2.0.1 on 1/27/05** – corrections to VITA site link and local agency addresses in Milwaukee
- **R2.1.0 on 2/17/05** –addition of meta-tags for search engines, improvements in how the PDF is launched, creation of an ACCESS maintenance page, creation of a demonstration site registration page, additions of “alt text” for Section 508 compliance, agency address corrections, and minor adjustments to English and Spanish text. *We also included a text adjustment to the local agency address section:*

Before: “You told us your home was in ~ County. Please be sure to call ahead before visiting any of these county offices.”

After: “You told us your home was in ~ County. Please be sure to call ahead before visiting any of these county offices. If you live in a county with more than one office, all of the offices listed below can help you start your application for FoodShare and/or Medicaid. In some cases, only one office may be able to help you complete the application process.”



- **R2.1.1 on 3/1/05** – FPL updates for Medicaid calculations
- **R2.1.2, scheduled for 3/15/05** – correction to Homestead/child tax credit logic for people not eligible for earned income credits; installation of application monitoring software for ACCESS.
- **R2.2.0, scheduled for May 2005** –adjustments to number-related error messages, removal of “to get started on getting Medicaid” for SSI MA recipients, addition of TEFAP agency name to TEFAP next steps, addition of referral link to Elderly Benefits Specialists, addition of calculator to compute monthly amounts, and correction to child support deduction.
- **R2.3.0, scheduled for 7/1/05** – **addition of Medicare Part D and Low-Income Subsidy to the ACCESS screener.**



11x17 ACCESS poster has been sent to the printer – will be available in mid-April.



3/4/05—Completed final WIC demonstration site training. WIC demonstration sites are now

up and running in Marinette, Rock and Vernon counties. We now have a total of 18 agencies (including 2 CAP agencies, 4 Milwaukee food pantries, 9 tribal health clinics and 3 WIC agencies) serving as demonstration sites for ACCESS.

Phase III Updates



November 2004 through February 2005—completed Phase III (online query, change report and application) requirements gathering meetings with advisory committees, local agencies, service providers, and low-income residents of Wisconsin:

- IMAC Program & Policy subcommittee (11/11)
- IMAC IT subcommittee (12/9)
- IMAC Training and Technical Assistance subcommittee (12/14)

- Local agency supervisors from the Green Bay region (11/12)
- Winnebago County eligibility workers (12/7)
- Washington County eligibility workers and supervisors (12/9)
- Local agency supervisors in Milwaukee County (12/17)
- Local agency supervisors from the Madison region (1/28)
- Local agency supervisors from the Waukesha region (1/28)
- Dane County Change Center staff (2/10)
- Local agency supervisors from the Eau Claire region (2/22)
- Local agency supervisors from the Ashland region (2/23)

- Tribal Medicaid Outreach Workers (1/7)
- WestCAP (1/12)
- Milwaukee demonstration sites (1/14)
- Waukesha Health Providers Network (1/18)
- Community Action Agencies of Wisconsin – quarterly WISCAP meeting (2/2)

- HeadStart parents' group, Fond du Lac (1/17)
- Voices Against Hunger members, Milwaukee (1/19)
- HeadStart parents' group, Montello (1/20)
- 2 financial literacy classes, Madison (1/26 and 1/27)
- Literacy class, Plainfield (1/26)
- Parenting class, Wautoma (1/26)
- HeadStart parents' group, Dodgeville (2/1)
- HeadStart parents' group, Ladysmith (2/9)
- HeadStart parents' group, Strum (1/21)

2/25/05—Provided high-level requirements document to Deloitte. Specific development and delivery timelines will be available shortly.

Selected User Comments from 1/1/05 to 2/27/05:

- *Great Tool. Kinda fun Also.*
- *Excelent, saw it in my WI Income Tax forms.*
- *It's nice to be able to find out this needed info in private, rather the embarassing trip to an appointment that tells you that your not eligible for programs!*
- *This website was a good start to make my life a little easier. I have been trying to figure out the next step needed to help me out in my daily life. Thanks for that.*